E-FILED; Baltimore County Circuit Court Docket: 5/19/2021 5:26 PM; Submission: 5/19/2021 5:26 PM

CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION IN THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MARYLAND **CIRCUIT COURT** 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor Baltimore, Maryland 21202, **FOR** Plaintiff, BALTMORE COUNTY v. C-03-CV-21-001555 MARCIA L. BAILEY Case No. 400 Sherwood Road Cockeysville, MD 21030, MARCIA BAILEY, INC. T/A SIGNATURE ACCOUNTING 400 Sherwood Road Cockeysville, MD 21030, ARTHUR WITTENBERG 202 Woodgreen Circle Ft. Washington, MD 20744, and ARTHUR WITTENBERG, AS A TRUSTEE FOR THE WITTENBERG FAMILY TRUST 201 International Circle, Suite 230 Hunt Valley, MD 21030 Defendants.

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S EX PARTE MOTION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

Upon consideration of the Consumer Protection Division's ("Division") Ex Parte Complaint and Ex Parte Motion for Temporary Restraining Order, including the affidavits and exhibits in support thereof, and any opposition thereto, and having provided the parties an opportunity to present argument, this Court finds that it clearly appears that the issuance of a temporary restraining order is necessary pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Com. Law §13-403(c). The

Defendants practice of accepting substantial payments from consumers, not providing the purchased consumer debt consolidation services, and refusing to refund consumers' payments, is causing substantial, irreparable harm to consumers and is likely to continue in the absence of an order restraining such conduct.

Additionally, (1) there is a likelihood that the Division will succeed on the merits; (2) the balance of convenience favors the Division; (3) consumers will suffer irreparable injury unless this order is granted; and (4) the public interest will be served by the issuance of this order.

Therefore, it is this 20th of May, 202,1₂₀₂₁, at 1:45 p.m./p.m, hereby, ORDERED, that the Consumer Protection Division's Ex Parte Motion for Temporary Restraining Order is **GRANTED**; and it is further,

ORDERED, that Defendants not offer and sell consumer debt consolidation services from any location in Maryland or to any consumer who is residing in Maryland; and it is further,

ORDERED, that any party or person affected by this Temporary Restraining Order may apply for a modification or dissolution of the order on two days' notice, or such shorter notice as the Court may prescribe, to the party who obtained the Order; and it is further,

ORDERED, that this Temporary Restraining Order shall expire, unless otherwise extended by the Court, on Tuesday, June 1st, 2021, which date is not later than 10 days after issuance; and it is further,

ORDERED, that the Consumer Protection Division shall not be required to post a bond in this matter; and it is further,

ORDERED, that three (3) true test copies of this Temporary Restraining Order shall be

released to the Consumer Protection Division at the time this Order is entered.

05/20/2021

Date

Judge, Circuit Court for Baltimore County

Copies to:

Niknaz M. McCormally

Consumer Protection Division 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor Baltimore, MD 21202

Marcia L. Bailey

400 Sherwood Road Cockeysville, MD 21030

Marcia Bailey, Inc. t/a Signature Accounting 400 Sherwood Road Cockeysville, MD 21030

Granville Templeton

Counsel for Ms. Bailey and Marcia Bailey, Inc. 729 E Pratt Street, Suite 560 Baltimore, MD 21202

Arthur Wittenberg

202 Woodgreen Circle Ft. Washington, MD 20744

Arthur Wittenberg, As A Trustee For The Wittenberg Family Trust 201 International Circle, Suite 230 Hunt Valley, MD 21030

Entered: Clerk, Circuit Court for Baltimore County, MD May 20, 2021